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5. (Amended) A product or structure according to claim 3, which is configured as a hardware item for medical or related purposes.

6. (Amended) A product or structure according to claim 5, which is configured in the form of a cylinder, sleeve, pin, screw, bolt, nut, spacer, or flat or curved plate, for medical or related purposes.

7. (Amended) A product or structure according to claim 3, which is configured in the form of a prosthetic or implant device.

8. (Amended) A product or structure according to claim 3, wherein a therapeutically active substance is adsorbed or bound onto the coral.

11. (Amended) A device for medical or related purposes which comprises an assembly of a plurality of shaped products or structures according to any of claims 3 to 10.

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12. (Amended) A device according to claim 11, comprising first and second elongate members each of which is adapted to be fixed at one end to a long bone, the other ends of each of said first and second elongate members being externally and internally threaded so that said first member is received by said second member in a threaded inter-engagement to enable the overall length of the device to be adjusted.

Please add new claim 13, as follows:

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13. A device according to claim 12, further comprising an internally-threaded third member in threaded engagement with the first member to act as a locking nut and to lock the second member with respect to the first member at a desired overall length.

REMARKS

Claims 3-13 are pending after entry of the amendments above. Applicant has rewritten claim 3 in independent form and amended the remaining claims to depend from claim 3 directly or indirectly. The scope of claim 3 has not been narrowed, so it is entitled to a full range of equivalents. Applicant has amended the claims to overcome the rejection under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, without narrowing claim scope. However, applicant respectfully notes that